

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 9-13, and 39-45 are pending in the present application including independent claim 1. In the Office Action, claim 1 was rejected for not having sufficient antecedent basis for the recitation that the polyelectrolyte has a "net charge opposite to that of the detection probes." Claim 1 has thus been amended to clarify this point.

Claims 1-6, 9-11, and 39-34 were also rejected for obviousness-type double patenting in view of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/132,421, which has now issued as U.S. Patent No. 7,651,841. Without commenting on its propriety, Applicants are submitting herewith a terminal disclaimer to obviate this rejection.

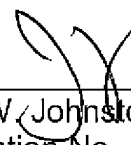
It is believed that the present application is in complete condition for allowance and favorable action, therefore, is respectfully requested. Examiner DiRamio is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned, however, should any issues remain after consideration of this Amendment.

Please charge any additional fees required by this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

Respectfully requested,

DORITY & MANNING, P.A.

2/23/10
Date



Jason W. Johnston
Registration No. 45,675
P.O. Box 1449
Greenville, SC 29602-1449
Telephone: (864) 271-1592
Facsimile: (864) 233-7342